

CHRISTIANS OF CENTRAL PARK

History of a Growing Church in Southwest Topeka.

William Irelan Was Leading Spirit in Its Organization.

TABERNACLE BUILT IN 1903

Permanent Church Home Was Dedicated August, 1905.

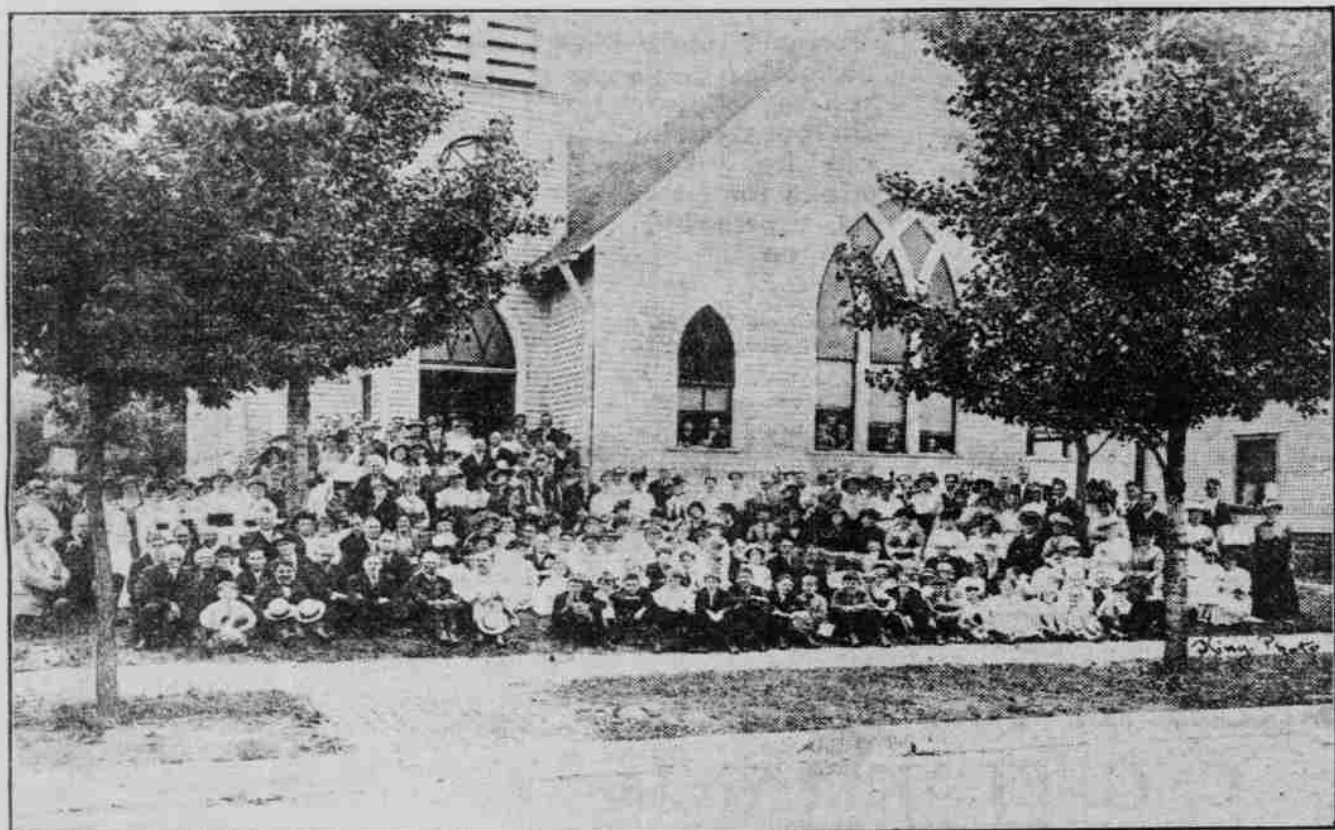
The Rev. R. P. McPherson Is the Present Pastor.

(This is the thirty-ninth of a series of articles on Topeka churches published in the State Journal.)

The actual beginning of the Central Park Christian church dates back to 1892, when William Irelan, elder, at the close of missionary pastorate at the North Topeka Christian church, moved with his family to the southwest section of the city, although the church was not organized until ten years later.

A Bible school was organized in Irelan's hall at Seventeenth and Clay streets, which was continued until 1899, R. G. Moody, one of the charter members of the church, and an elder, moved to this section of the city, and took a deep interest in the Bible school. The school was given up in 1899 because of the separation by removal of some of the leaders.

Elder Irelan was a man of energy. He established churches in Lawrence, De Soto and other places in the state. He saw the possibilities for a church in the southwest portion of the city, although Doubtless's tract was a pasture and the tracts west and south were scarcely enough settled to mark the streets. His own time was occupied by missionary work over the state that he could not personally attend to organizing a church, but he



Central Park Christian Church Edifice and Congregation.

created interest in the project and the formation of the Sunday school mentioned was the first step.

Erecting a Tabernacle.

Elder Irelan procured the services of J. A. S. Rountree, evangelist, in North Topeka, which strengthened the church there. He was interested in the organization of the Third Christian church.

In 1903 fifty of the "disciples" in the southwest section of Topeka petitioned, and work on a tabernacle was soon started at the corner of Sixteenth and Clay streets. The building was 48x80 feet in size.

A Bible school of fifty members was organized, and the membership was soon increased to 100.

Services held in the months of July and August by Neal Overman, evangelist, resulted in the organization of a church of sixty-five members, with William Irelan, J. W. McTernan and R. G. Moody as elders. A number of the charter members are still in the congregation.

Church Edifice Was Built.

As a result of another meeting in January, 1904, by the same evangelist, the membership was increased to 100. Lots were purchased at the corner of Sixteenth street and Central Park avenue as a site for a permanent church edifice. It was not until early in 1905 that work was started on the new building. Material in the tabernacle was used in the construction of the new place of worship. The cornerstone was laid May 1, by Brother William Irelan.

The building was completed and dedicated in August. "Elder" A. Paulson was called as its pastor. He was succeeded in 1907 by "Elder" C. W. Cooper.

Some Church History.

The membership of the church passed the 200 point in the pastorate of the Rev. Mr. Cooper, and the Bible school attendance was more than 150. It was in this period of the church history that J. Frank Snyder resigned as superintendent of the Bible school. He was succeeded by C. C. Hart, who now holds the office. In the Cooper administration the crude benches were replaced by comfortable church pews. In May, 1908 occurred the death of a



Tabernacle built in 1903 at corner of Sixteenth and Clay streets, as place of worship for congregation of Central Park Christian Church.



The Rev. R. P. McPherson, Pastor Central Park Christian Church.

prominent member of the official board—William Hahn, who had been an elder for three years.

The Rev. Albert T. Fitts succeeded "Brother" Cooper as pastor in June, 1909. The congregation grew in strength as a result of his enthusiasm and untiring energy.

The Rev. Ralph C. Harding became pastor in December, 1911. He possesses executive ability to an unusual degree, and much was accomplished to increase the efficiency of the church. A basement room was finished which doubled the space available for Bible school purposes, and gave a place for holding social events, and for the work of a Junior congregation.

Active Bible School.

The Bible school is well organized. The superintendents of departments: Adult, H. D. Studevant; primary, Miss

COL. ARMES HERE

Pioneer Indian Fighter Is Visiting in Topeka.

Has Not Been Here Before in Past 45 Years.

Kansas as a battlefield between Indians and government troops is recalled by the visit to Topeka of Col. George Armes, U. S. A., retired Indian fighter and frontier soldier of the Sixties. Col. Armes is stopping for a few days at the National hotel while on his way from Texas and other ex-

IS OF A NEW TYPE

Daniel Willard Does Not Belong to the Old School.

B. & O. President Has a Wide Variety of Duties.

HE BEGAN AS A TRACKMAN

Started Career as a Railroad Man When 18 Years of Age.

Steadily Climbed Ladder and Is Now on the Top Rung.

The person who believes that the railroad president, responsible for the operation of several thousand miles of tracks, "has an easy thing of it," would do well to look upon the subject in the light of present events. It may have been in former times that the chief executive of a big transportation system had a "soft berth," but the old order of things has changed and simultaneously with this change there has been developed a new type of railroad president.



Daniel Willard.

Daniel Willard, president of the Baltimore and Ohio-Cincinnati, Hamilton and Dayton system of railroads, is of this type of railroad executive. Biographers have written of Mr. Willard as a railroad statesman, who is devoting his best efforts towards bringing about a fair understanding of the railroad situation by the general public and an appreciation of the needs of the public on the part of railroad managers.

Among His Duties. Besides adjusting the questions between the public and its railroads, President Willard is also commissioned by the stockholders and board of directors of the Baltimore and Ohio system to work out the means to the end whereby they will receive a fair

return upon their investments. The responsibilities of a railroad president of the Willard type necessitate devoting practically his entire time to the work. Long hours are spent in conference with other officials on matters of improvements of operation and traffic. There is an enormous amount of mail which has to be answered and it is also necessary to keep in close touch with the railroad property and the attitude of the people who live in the communities reached by the railroad's lines.

Sketch of His Life. Daniel Willard, president of the Baltimore and Ohio system, was born Jan. 26, 1861, at New Hartland, Vt. His parents were Daniel Spaulding and Mary Ann Willard. After attending the district schools he was graduated from Windsor (Vermont) high school and entered railway service in 1879 in the track department of the Central Vermont railroad. Later he entered train service and became a locomotive engineer on the Connecticut and Passumpsic railroad. After running on this road for four years, Mr. Willard became an engineer on the Lake Shore railroad, afterwards becoming a conductor on the Minneapolis, St. Paul and Sault Ste. Marie railroad (the Soo line). His first official position was trainmaster of the Soo, and he was later promoted to division superintendent. In 1899 he became assistant general manager of the Baltimore and Ohio system in January, 1904, he became second vice president in charge of operation of the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy railroad, and was elected president of the Baltimore and Ohio system in January, 1910, and has filled this position to the present.

Was a Strike Arbitrator. When a strike threatened among the engineers in the eastern section of the United States a few years back Mr. Willard was appointed one of the two arbitrators to select a mediation board to settle the differences between the labor body and the roads. In this he was successful in averting the strike. He was chosen chairman of the executive committee handling the five per cent rate increase case for the eastern roads, and mainly through his untiring efforts was the evidence submitted successful in obtaining partial relief for the eastern carriers.

(Note: This is the fifth of a series of articles about railroad presidents published in the State Journal.)

St. Hay Fever Day. Philadelphia, Aug. 14.—Philadelphia, which opens the hay fever season one day earlier than cities farther north, is celebrating St. Hay Fever Day, not waiting for the official date, which is tomorrow. The day opened with Chautauqua salutes and will close with handkerchiefs still in the air. All victims in touch with the United States Hay Fever association and in position to accept its advice are seeking places where the pollen of the rose, ragweed and goldenrod do not fill the air.

Some Coffin, He's Building. Attean, S. D., Aug. 14.—J. L. Babcock, police desk sergeant, is 80 years old and hale and hearty. He has been smoking cigarettes for 72 years, or since he was eight years old. He estimated that during that entire time he has averaged from 25 to 35 daily, which for the 72 years would total 665,000 cigarettes.

Jitneys are seriously affecting street railway revenues in Vancouver.

ONLY BIG SHOW COMING TO TOPEKA

CIRCUS DAY MONDAY AUGUST 16

RINGLING BROS

CIRCUS AND COLOSSAL PRODUCTION

SOLOMON AND THE QUEEN OF SHEBA

GREATEST SPECTACLE EVER STAGED

1250 CHARACTERS

300 DANCING GIRLS

CHORUS OF 400 VOICES

ORCHESTRA OF 90 AND 735 HORSES



A STUPENDOUS EPIC DRAMA OF THIRTY CENTURIES AGO ENACTED UPON THE BIGGEST STAGE IN THE WORLD

PRODUCED AT A COST OF \$1,000,000

WORLD'S GREATEST AERIALISTS

89 RAILROAD CARS LOADED WITH 1000 ALL NEW WONDERS

THE

385 ARENIC ARTISTS

50 FAMOUS CLOWNS

GREATEST CIRCUS EVENT IN THE HISTORY OF AMERICA

AT TEN O'CLOCK A. M. PRECEDING FIRST PERFORMANCE

BIG NEW STREET PARADE

ONE 50c TICKET ADMITS TO ALL CHILDREN Under 12 Years HALF-PRICE

2 Performances Daily, 2 & 8 P. M. Doors Open 1 & 7 P. M.

Admission and Reserved Seat Ticket Sale Down Town Circus Day at Rowley's Drug Store, 600 Kansas Ave. Prices Exactly the Same as at Circus Grounds.

108 CAGE ZOO 41 ELEPHANT ACTORS

A Plump Ear, and the Right Spread!



Spread It On Thick

IN SEALED PACKAGES ONLY ASK YOUR DEALER FOR IT.

Beatrice Creamery Co. Topeka - - - Kansas

PICK a full-kerneled, plump ear of that fresh sweet corn and spread Meadow-Gold Butter over it thick—on with the salt, before the steam quits rising from that king of summer foods. Now, a little shake of pepper and—your taste meets the flavor of milky sweetness made better by creamy, appetizing butter goodness.

Meadow-Gold Butter is the right spread for many a fine food. Meadow-Gold is the Topeka made butter, churned fresh every day for the people of Topeka who must have quality butter. Meadow-Gold is sweet, wholesome and chock-full of fine flavor. It's made from only pasteurized cream. Meadow-Gold is protected by the patented package that wards off human contact, that keeps out dust, and prevents its contents from absorbing food flavors in the refrigerator.

You'll get your money's worth in Meadow-Gold Butter. You'll get the quality you like and you'll want Meadow-Gold regularly.

TOPEKA NUMBER OUT.

Santa Fe Magazine Devotes Much Space to Headquarters.

Topeka and the Topeka general offices of the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe railroad are well represented in this month's issue of the Santa Fe Employee's magazine. On page 40 appears a half page picture of C. W. Kouns and the force of the general ture includes: W. B. Collinson, chief manager's office of Topeka. The clerk to the general manager: C. W. Kouns, general manager; H. B. Leutz, assistant to the general manager; Mr. Krammes, G. R. Miller, V. V. Scholes, L. C. Elliott, W. S. Miller, R. H. Downes, Helen M. Pope, D. E. Merriott, James Buntz and Earl Moore.

On page 46 appears a cartoon of W. B. "Bill" Collinson, chief clerk to the general manager. "Bill" it can be truthfully said is one of the most popular officials of the railroad in Topeka. He is shown at his favorite sport, tennis. Of the popular official, the magazine says: "Bill" Collinson, chief clerk to the general manager, continues to maintain his reputation as a tennis star. But in work, as in sports, Bill can be counted on to hit the ball."

Another quarter of a page is devoted to a picture of W. W. Strickland, freight auditor, and his office force. P. A. Wilson, stationer of the local offices, is depicted in the cartoon. A page of the magazine shows a cut of the "small army" under the command of W. W. Strickland, freight auditor.

Free Advertising for Minnie. St. Paul, Minn., Aug. 14.—During "Newspaper Week" from October 10 to October 16, set aside as a special week for boosting Minnesota, 100 daily and weekly newspapers in the state are planning to give the movement, front page publicity.